

June 29, 2012

# Weekly Views

Branchville Correctional Facility and PEN Products opened a Career Resource Center (CRC) in their Industry building. The CRC will allow offenders the opportunity to work on several areas of their re-entry including the development of a Career Path Plan. These offenders will develop their plans using the same career based assessments utilized by professional career counselors. The opening of the CRC was followed the next day by a Career Path Planning workshop attended by 12 re-entry/corrections professionals and 24 Branchville offenders.

The Putnamville Correctional Facility has expanded its Prison Greyhound program to eight handlers and four greyhounds with the arrival of 5-year-old Onyx, 3-year-olds Midnight and Basil, and 2-

year-old Hunter. The ex-racers made the long trip to the facility from Daytona, Florida and are now in the orientation phase of the program, coordinated by case managers Ed Joslyn and Steve Shotwell. (see photo right of the offender handlers and their new canine companions)

Commissioner Lemmon hosted a private tour of the Reflections of Pride: The History of IDOC Museum at the Correctional Training Institute. Special guests included former Chairman of the Board of Correction Mr. Daniel F. Evans Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer of Clarian Health Partners, and former Deputy Commissioner of Operations, Mr. Cloyd L. Shuler, Vice President of Business Development for The GEO Group.



The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) American Correctional Association (ACA) audit ended on a high note! Wabash scored 100% on 55 mandatory standards and 99.3% on 451 non-mandatory standards. This is the highest score ever for Wabash on non-mandatory standards! Superintendent Dick Brown noted the auditors were highly complementary of the professionalism of staff, the appearance of the facility and the overall atmosphere in general! Superintendent Brown commended staff for an outstanding job in preparing the facility for the audit. Congratulations WVCF!!!

The Pendleton Correctional Facility was honored to welcome some distinguished visitors. IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon, Executive Director of Adult Facilities James Basinger, Director of Mental Health and Special Populations Craig Hanks, and Vice President of Business Development for The GEO Group Cloyd Shuler visited the facility to meet with staff and observe facility operations.

A group called "Family Matters" has formed at the Indiana Women's Prison with 15 offenders meeting once a week for 12 weeks. The course focuses on experiences in families, including children, parents and grandparents. "Family Matters" will be utilized as an introduction to family issues and will follow more specific courses on marriage or parenting.

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) congratulates Lieutenant Daniel Ward! Daniel has accepted a Parole Agent position at the Gary Parole District Office (PD#6) effective July 1. Daniel began his career as a Correctional Officer at WCC in 1997 and was recently promoted to Correctional Lieutenant in March 2012. We will miss Daniel, but we know that WCC will always have a great friend at PD #6.

Miami Correctional Facility celebrated its Family Fun Day, bringing in more than 300 family members and staff. Everyone was treated to hotdogs and hamburgers, snow cones, nachos, pony rides, a corn hole tournament, music, Special Emergency Response Team (SERT), Emergency Squad and K-9 demonstrations, and lots and lots of water fights. The kids also got to play in a bouncy castle and on a couple water slides. Several staff also volunteered to sit in a dunk tank. Fun was had by all!

The IDOC Audit Division is proud to announce that the initiation of electronic files for American Correctional Association (ACA) accreditation purposes has reduced travel time, hotel accommodations, vehicle wear and tear, per diem, and costs from paper, folders and other supplies. Using a template available to all the facility ACA managers and adjunct auditors the Audit Division is able to complete reviews from Central Office. For reaccreditation audits program review staff are taking lap tops to the facilities and the American Correctional Association Auditors are logging on and completing the audits electronically as well. The ACA is touting electronic files and our Department is front and center. To date IDOC has completed three electronic audits this year and will complete four more by year's end.

Tammy Atwood, Volunteer Coordinator for the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP), visited the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) to pick up a Doll House that was generously donated to the IWP Family Preservation Center. IREF Offenders Pierce and Moore invested countless hours building the Victorian style doll house custom making most of the detail work. "These two gentlemen will certainly brighten the faces of all that behold their talent, generosity and sense of care for the children," says IWP Superintendent Steve McCauley, Thank you to IREF staff and offenders!